



**BRIEFING: JUNE 3, 2014 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM #4**

**TO:** Chairman Richard and Board Members

**FROM:** Thomas C. Fellenz, Chief Counsel

**DATE:** June 3, 2014

**RE:** Consider Amending the Board's Policies and Procedures Regarding Chair and Vice-Chair Terms of Office

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**Background**

At the May 6-7, 2014 Board Meeting Vice-Chairperson Jim Harnett requested staff to bring to the Board for its consideration a California High-Speed Rail Authority Board Policies and Procedures change to the current chairperson and vice-chairman consecutive term restriction.

**Discussion**

Under Public Utilities Code section 185020 (f) the Authority may elect a chairperson, who shall preside at all meetings of the Authority, and a vice-chairperson to preside in the absence of the chairperson. The chairperson shall serve a term of one year. The Code does not place term limits on the chairperson or vice-chairperson office.

The Board's Policies and Procedures currently restrict the Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from holding those offices no more than two consecutive terms. If it chooses to do so, the Board may change the policy to allow a Board chairperson and or vice-chairperson to serve more than two consecutive terms. The number of consecutive terms can be set at any limit or no limit as long as each term does not exceed one year as required in Public Utilities Code section 185020(f).

Consequently, the Board may remove the two consecutive term limit by deleting Article II A 4 of the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Board approve and adopt the attached resolution to amend the Board Policies and Procedures related to the current chairperson and vice-chairman consecutive term restriction.

**Attachments**

– Resolution #HSRA14-14

- Board Policies and Procedures dated June 3, 2014